

Message Text

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ORIGIN STR-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 INT-05 AGRE-00
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02
TRSE-00 FRB-03 OMB-01 L-03 OIC-02 /059 R

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COMMERCE:WKRIST

INTERIOR:HANDERSON

TREASURY:EBARBER

AGRICULTURE:JHUDSON

STATE:HKOPP

LABOR:DWANAMAKER

-----114972 210130Z /73

P 210036Z APR 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: STATUS OF BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS

1. IN ORDER TO CONCLUDE THE MTN SATISFACTORILY WE ARE NOW ASSESSING STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH EACH OF OUR TRADING PARTNERS, INCLUDING EACH LDC. WE WELCOME INPUT OF MTN DEL IN THIS ASSESSMENT. IN FACT, SUCH INPUT IS ESSENTIAL IF ASSESSMENT IS TO BE REALISTIC, PARTICULARLY IN TERMS OF NEGOTIATING POSSIBILITIES.

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2. THEREFORE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE A DELEGATION ASSESSMENT OF THE VALUE TO EACH COUNTRY IN THE NEGOTIATIONS OF U.S. OFFERS ON INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL TARIFFS AND PRODUCT-SPECIFIC NONTARIFF MEASURES AND OF THE VALUE OF THE GENERAL CODES. WE ALSO NEED A DELEGATION ASSESSMENT OF THE VALUE TO THE UNITED STATES OF THE OFFERS THAT EACH OF THESE

COUNTRIES HAS ON THE TABLE WITH RESPECT TO INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL TARIFF AND NONTARIFF MEASURES. IN OTHER WORDS, WE NEED AN ASSESSMENT, ALBEIT PRELIMINARY, OF BILATERAL BALANCES AT THIS STAGE.

3. WE ALSO NEED DELEGATION VIEWS ON WHAT OFFERS OR WITHDRAWALS NEED TO BE MADE BY THE UNITED STATES OR IMPROVEMENTS BY OTHER COUNTRIES SO AS TO CONSTRUCT A REALISTIC

RECIPROCAL PACKAGE WITH EACH OF THE DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ENGAGED IN THE MTN. SINCE THE U.S. OFFER IS FAR MORE FORTHCOMING THAN ANY OTHER COUNTRY'S OFFER, OBVIOUSLY IMPROVEMENTS ON OUR PART COULD ONLY BE MADE FOLLOWING IMPROVEMENTS BY MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS IN THEIR OFFERS ON ITEMS OF INTEREST TO THE U.S. PARTICULAR ATTENTION SHOULD BE PAID TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT COMPETITIVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR VARIOUS PRODUCT SECTORS AND OF ISAC, APAC, AND LPAC OBJECTIVES; THE NEGOTIATING POSSIBILITIES FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENT; AND HOW THE DELEGATION PLANS TO PURSUE THESE GOALS.

4. WITH RESPECT TO THE LDCS, WE ESPECIALLY NEED A DELEGATION ASSESSMENT AS TO WHICH COUNTRIES PLAN TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS, WHICH ARE LIKELY TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS, AND WHICH ARE UNLIKELY TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS. AT LEAST SOME ESTIMATE OF THE NATURE AND SIZE OF SUCH CONTRIBUTIONS

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AS WELL AS AN INDICATION OF WHICH LDCS ARE (A) PLANNING TO SIGN CODES, (B) ACCEDE TO GATT AND (C) BIND TARIFF CONCESSIONS, WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL. IF THESE QUESTIONS HAVE NOT ALREADY BEEN DISCUSSED WITH A PARTICULAR LDC WE SUGGEST THAT THEY BE ADDRESSED AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.

5. WE PLAN TO FINISH THIS ASSESSMENT IN MID-MAY. CONSEQUENTLY, WE NEED DELEGATION'S INPUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, NEGOTIATIONS, PROGRESS REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE101536
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WBKELLY, JR:SMS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780170-0213
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780430/aaaaazcn.tel
Line Count: 104
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3f0cefa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN STR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2890181
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STATUS OF BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS
TAGS: ETRD, MTN
To: GENEVA USMTN
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3f0cefa9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014